On page 54, please replace the existing paragraph beginning on line 8 with the following paragraph:

-- A PPM, such as the PPM **20** illustrated in **Fig. 2**, and described in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/042,048, filed on March 13, 1998, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, when utilized to monitor disease therapy in accordance with this embodiment of the present invention is referred to as a COAGCARE™ Patient Monitor (CPM). A CPM may include all the features of a PPM described above and also includes computer code that receives and stores patient data provided by a patient. A Palm Pilot, available from 3Com Corporation, Santa Clara, California, may be provided with various program code to implement aspects of the present invention. --

In the Claims:

Please replace Claims 1-6, 8, 10-20, 22-24, 27-35 and 37-43 with the following:

1. (Amended) A method of monitoring anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen selected from the group consisting of warfarin and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time (ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT) test, and thrombin clotting time test, wherein the apparatus is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens, and wherein the apparatus is configured to modify the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens, the method comprising the following steps performed by a portable apparatus:

receiving data from a patient at a portable apparatus, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

assessing severity of the received patient data via the portable apparatus;

prompting the patient to perform a patient-administered coagulation test, via the portable apparatus, if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

receiving coagulation test results from the patient-administered test at the portable apparatus; and

communicating the received coagulation test results of the patient-administered test from the portable apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

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2. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

assessing severity of the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test via the portable apparatus;

modifying the patient-administered medication regimen via the portable apparatus if the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

3. (Amended) The method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen from the portable apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

4. (Amended) The method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen from the portable apparatus to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

5. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving at the portable apparatus information from the patient about patient

compliance with the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens during a preceding time period.

6. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically communicating the received patient data from the portable apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

8. (Amended) The method according to Claim 4 further comprising the step of communicating information regarding medication dosage from the portable apparatus to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

10. (Amended) A portable apparatus that monitors anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen selected from the group consisting of warfarin and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time (ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT) test, and thrombin clotting time test, comprising:

a processor;

a user interface in communication with the processor;

computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores data from a patient, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received patient data;

computer code executable by the processor that prompts a patient via the user interface to perform a patient-administered coagulation test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test;

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

11. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising:

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computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test; computer code executable by the processor that modifies the patient-administered medication regimen if the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

12. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 11 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

13. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 11 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

14. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores information

from a patient about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens during a preceding time period.

15. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

16. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 15 wherein the computer code that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider comprises computer code that sends a paging signal to a healthcare provider.

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17. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 13 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

18. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 10 wherein the received patient data comprises at least one of information about hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient and information about non-hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient.

19. (Amended) A system that monitors anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen selected from the group consisting of warfarin and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time (ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT) test, and thrombin clotting time test, wherein the system comprises:

a portable patient apparatus, comprising:

a processor;

a user interface in communication with the processor;

computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores data from a patient, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received patient data;

computer code executable by the processor that prompts the patient via the user interface to perform a patient-administered coagulation test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

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computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test to a healthcare provider via a communications network; and

a remotely located data processing system configured to communicate with and receive data from the portable patient apparatus, the remotely located data processing system comprising:

computer code that obtains patient data from the patient apparatus;

computer code that analyzes the obtained patient data from to identify medical conditions of a patient;

computer code that displays identified patient medical conditions for a patient in selectable, prioritized order according to medical severity via a remotely located client in communication with the central data processing system; and

computer code that displays treatment options for treating a selected medical condition for a patient.

20. (Amended) The system according to Claim 19 wherein the portable patient apparatus further comprises:

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computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test;

computer code executable by the processor that modifies the patient-administered medication regimen if the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

22. (Amended) The system according to Claim 21 wherein the computer code that communicates treatment information from the remotely located data processing system to the portable patient apparatus comprises computer code that transmits treatment information via wireless, satellite, telephone, e-mail, AVM or facsimile transmission.

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23. (Amended) The system according to Claim 22 wherein the computer code that communicates treatment information from the remotely located data processing system to the portable patient apparatus comprises computer code that modifies the medication algorithm within the portable patient apparatus.

24. (Amended) The system according to Claim 19 wherein the computer code that obtains patient data from the portable patient apparatus further comprises:

computer code that analyzes data transmitted from the patient apparatus substantially simultaneously with the transmission thereof to the remotely located data processing system to identify emergency medical conditions requiring immediate medical attention; and

computer code that automatically communicates treatment information to the patient apparatus for an identified emergency medical condition.

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27. (Amended) The system according to Claim 19 wherein the portable patient apparatus further comprises computer code that receives information via the user interface about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication regimen and the patient-administered coagulation test regimen during a preceding time period.

28. (Amended) The system according to Claim 19 wherein the portable patient apparatus further comprises computer code that communicates information regarding medication dosage to a patient via the user interface in response to determining that a patient did not comply with the patient-administered medication regimen in a preceding time period.

29. (Amended) A method of monitoring disease therapy of a patient via a portable patient apparatus, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, cancer chemotherapy, depression, high blood pressure, seizure disorders, and thrombosis, wherein the disease therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen and a patient-administered regimen for a test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the portable patient apparatus is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and test regimens, and wherein the portable patient apparatus is configured to modify the patient-administered medication and test regimens, the method comprising the following steps performed by the apparatus:

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receiving data from a patient at a portable patient apparatus, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

assessing severity of the received patient data via the portable patient apparatus;

prompting the patient to perform a patient-administered test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level via the portable patient apparatus;

receiving test results from the patient-administered test at the portable patient apparatus; and

communicating the received test results of the patient-administered test from the portable patient apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

30. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the steps of:

assessing severity of the received test results from the patient-administered test via the portable patient apparatus;

modifying the patient-administered medication regimen via the portable patient apparatus if the received test results from the patient-administered test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

31. (Amended) The method according to Claim 30 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen from the portable patient apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

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32. (Amended) The method according to Claim 30 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen from the portable patient apparatus to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

33. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the step of receiving at the portable patient apparatus information from the patient about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and test regimens during a preceding time period.

34. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the step of automatically communicating the received patient data from the portable patient apparatus to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

35. (Amended) The method according to Claim 32 further comprising the step of communicating information regarding medication dosage from the portable patient apparatus to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

37. (Amended) A portable apparatus that monitors disease therapy of a patient, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, cancer chemotherapy, depression, high blood pressure, seizure disorders, and thrombosis, wherein the disease therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen and a patient-administered regimen for a test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, the portable apparatus comprising:

a processor;

a user interface in communication with the processor;

computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores data from a patient, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

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computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received patient data;

computer code executable by the processor that prompts the patient via the user interface to perform a patient-administered test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores test results from the patient-administered test; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the received test results from the patient-administered test to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

38. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising:

computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received test results from the patient-administered test;

computer code executable by the processor that modifies the patient-administered medication regimen if the received test results from the patient-administered test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

39. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 38 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

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40. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 38 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

41. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores information provided by the patient about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and test regimens during a preceding time period.

42. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

43. (Amended) The portable apparatus according to Claim 40 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

REMARKS

Claims 1-73 are pending. The Action states that restriction to one of the following inventions is required: Group I (Claims 1-43) or Group II (Claims 44-73). For